

Minutes of a meeting of Bilsington Parish Council held at Bilsington Village Hall on Wednesday 27th March 2024 at 7:00 pm.

Present: Councillors; S Hudson (Chairman), M Bilham, L Lawson and R Thompson.

In attendance: Peter Setterfield PSLCC, Parish Clerk & Responsible Financial Officer.

Also present: Cllr L Harman (ABC)

1049. Apologies for absence:

There were no apologies for absence.

1050. Declarations of interest:

There were no declarations of interest.

1051. Public participation:

There were no members of the public present.

1052. Kent County Councillor's report:

- The budget issue continues to dominate at KCC, but we will achieve a balanced budget in 2023/2024, and, also, next year, 2024/2025. We are starting work on 2025/2026 immediately and we will probably balance that too. After that, it is hard to see how things can continue, without significant changes to both how Local Government is financed and how it is structured.
- We continue with our roadworks project and are looking to release more money for basic road maintenance, especially potholes.
- Simon Hudson, Linda Harman and I are meeting on site on Tuesday 2nd April to discuss various parking issues in Bilsington.

1053. Ashford Borough Councillor's report:

The new bin contract has started and early signs are good although some bins have been emptied a day late. The press has reported about part of the shopping centre being converted to flats. At this stage there is no planning application it has been put forward under the call for sites.

The Council has approved plans to support the cinema in Elwick Place for one year with consultants reviewing procedures and specialists operating.

1054. Neighbourhood watch:

No report submitted.

1055. Minutes:

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 31st January 2024 were submitted, agreed as a true record and signed by the Chairman.

1056. Planning matters:

There were no planning applications to consider.

1057. Finance:

Schedule of payments:

Staff costs January 2024	£511.39
Staff costs February 2024	£446.50
Clerk's expenses	£36.00
Westcotec	£100.80
Bilsington Village Hall	£150.00

Resolved: to authorise the payment of the items of expenditure.

1058. Highways:

No update on the Highways Improvement Plan, parking issues covered in KCC report.

1059. D Day Commemorations:

Plans are currently being prepared.

1060. Village Hall:

Events booked are the art exhibition on 25th and 26th May and the annual fruit and veg show on 3rd August. The committee are looking to arrange some new events.

1061. Other items for information:

Dates of future meetings:

20th May 2024 and Annual Parish Meeting

17th July 2024

19th September 2024

21st November 2024

19th December 2024.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8:05pm.